Indo-French Agreement on inductionoftechnology for management ofdrinking water supply

1120. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR; Will the Minister of WATER RE, SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India have entered into an agreement with the French Government for induction of telphnology for management of drinking water supply especially in problem villages, re-cycling of used water, conservation of water for use in agriculture and industry; etc;

(b) if so, the outlines and time-schedule thereof and the estimated expenditure involved including the foreign exchange component; and

(c) what would be the share of India in the expenditure involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTA-DIA); (a) No, sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Electoral Reforms

1121. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJ: PAYEE;

SHRIKAILASHPATIMISHRA

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased *to* state;

(a)whether in December last, after deliberations with the Chief Electoral Officers, the Chief Electoral Officers, the Chief Commission warned about the misuse of official machinery and positions, directly or indirectly in any manner whatsoever for futhering elec_ toral gains about the misuse of circuit State Guest Houses for electoral purposes that a Minister be debarred from holding public office for a decade, if found influencing the formation of polling parties or location of polling stations and to ensure that once elections were announced, Government functioned scrupulously as a cate .taker Government; and

(b) if so, the Action Plan of Government in response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI); (a) In the meeting of the Chief Electoral Officers in December 3989, the Chief Election Commissioner had emphasised that the use of official machinery and official position for political purposes should be avoided at all costs and that the Government should function as a cate-taker Government. As regards the use of Circuit houses etc. during ©lections, though the Chief Election Commissioner had raised this issue in the meeting, no final decision could be taken. Further the Commission had sought the views of the Chief Electoral Offices on the proposal whether the Commission should recommend to the Government for amendment of the law to provide for disqualification of Ministers and debarring them from holding public office in the event of their having been found involved in the formation of polling parties or the location of polling stations. On this point also no decision was taken.

(b) The Model Code of Conduct for the guidance of political parties and condidates. evolved by the Election Commission already contains some provisions in this respect. The question whether the Code should be provided statutory backing or not, is presently under consideration of the Committee on Electoral Reforms appointed by the Government. Transfer of officials before Assembly elections

1122. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE;

SHRI KAILASH PATI ;MISHRA;

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Election Commission warned the States and Union